

REMARKS

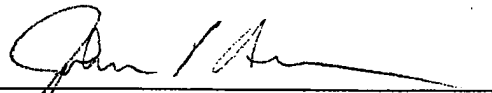
Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claim 2 is in condition for allowance. Furthermore, applicants have amended claim 1 as suggested by the Examiner and canceled claim 3 to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph for failure to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner contends that dendritic cells are not present in the normal central nervous system since dendritic cells were not detected in normal spinal chords, but were only detected after injury to the spinal chords. Applicants respectfully submit that applicants' failure to detect dendritic cells in normal central nervous tissue is not dispositive that dendritic cells are not present in normal central nervous tissue. However, in an effort to advance the prosecution of the present application, applicants have amended claim 1, as suggested by the Examiner, to include a step of administering (GM-CSF) locally to a site of injury, wherein said site comprises a neural stem cell/neural precursor.

The amendment to claim 1 is believed to fully address the Examiner's concerns. Accordingly, applicants request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 for lack of written description. Claim 3 has been canceled, rendering the rejection to that claim moot.

Applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request passage of the application to issuance. If any further discussion of this matter would speed prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (434) 220-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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